



Today I failed like a champion.



trollcatz



[trollcatz](#)

<https://trollcatz.livejournal.com/>

2009-01-05 22:16:00

MOOD:  cheerful

MUSIC: T. typing at the kitchen table

The new year means new routes all over the gym, and for some reason every single one has black tape on it. Okay, I lie. Two are green, and one is purple. But the rest are all black.

And tonight I tried five of them, all unrated.

I only sent one, the first one I tried, which is a tricky little ascent mostly on slopers and laybacks with a corner at the very top (a corner, and like *no* handholds, where "like no" means "one, and pointed in the wrong direction"). I must have falled off that durned thing twelve times before I finally tagged the top, and I only did it by jumping at it and tapping out as I fell past the biners. Maybe I'll make a decent ascent on Wednesday, unless the rain turns out to be freezing rain and we have to stay in.

Of the other five--on one, I couldn't get off the ground. Okay, I lie. I got off the ground. And then I fell off the second handhold, a nearly vertical sloper, every way I tried it. But considering the Platypus strained his left hand on the fourth move, and Tasha didn't get past the sixth, I don't feel bad. Then I made four or five tries at a new green route on the in-and-out overhang where I got my first 5.10(-) and didn't get past the first lip, so I went back down to the ground and tried an easier new route on the same wall, and I would have sent it if I hadn't been so pumped and burned out from the earlier climbs that not only did I fall off the wall (whheeee!), I couldn't get back on.

Last route was a long buckety green on the big overhang, but I lost it on the third or fourth move--my fingers just wouldn't close tight enough to hold me on the wall--and I scraped up my right palm by trying to stick the hold even as I was peeling off it. Next time for sure!

Who would have thought, a year ago, that I would be slinging the lingo so expertly, and bringing tactics to bear?



Thank you

This is Patricia Andreoli, wife of Daphne Worth, who you all knew as Trollcatz. Daphne died

...And there goes the weekend


But hey, we got a day and a half of this one! And I got to sleep in for two whole mornings. Too bad

As a law

enforcement
professional--

6 comments



 [standuponit](#)

[January 6 2009, 03:29:56 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Aww, lookit you, all grown up! (I don't think your belay guy was all he could have been on that last one. Sorry, dude.)



 [trollcatz](#)

[January 6 2009, 03:33:15 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)


You raised me from a pup!

Hey, my belay guy didn't drop me on my head. That's all I ask for. Besides, it wasn't your fault I couldn't stick to the wall.

Too much cake over the holidays. *Puffs out cheeks*

(How long are you gonna keep wearing that santa hat?)



 [standuponit](#)

[January 6 2009, 05:11:24 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

It's winter. The wind whistles past his little iconic ears.



 [inaurolillium](#)

[January 6 2009, 03:53:39 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

..."buckety"?

Sounds like you're doing well. Congrats!



 [batwrangler](#)

[January 6 2009, 05:01:43 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

Yay for tactics and failing for all you're worth! I went climbing for the first time on the Friday after Christmas. It was not what I expected but it **was** challenging and fun.



[barsukthom](#)

[January 6 2009, 13:54:56 UTC](#)

[COLLAPSE](#)

I am full of awe*. My brother used to climb religiously**, and still does to a lesser degree (he's an Old Dad now.) Me? I get wrshy thinking about climbing.

*Making me Awe-ful?

**Every Sunday morning, he'd be at the cliffs.